

**PARK & RECREATION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2005**  
**6:30 P.M.**

<b>Call to Order:</b>	The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15 <sup>th</sup> Street, Rushville. Due to President Corn's absence, Vice President Jack Harmon called the meeting to order. Members present were David Hasecuster, Jan Voiles, Wilma Jo Kile and Tim Shuppert. Others present were Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Mayor Bridges, Pool Manager Anita Carfield, Assistant Pool Manager Jean Kopf, Paul Barada and Liz Turner of Victims Assistance, Bruce Davis and Barb Tush.
<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes of May 10, 2005 was presented for approval. Sharpe stated that she had one correction to make in May's minutes. In the 5 <sup>th</sup> paragraph under pool parties, it should have read \$150.00 and not \$1.50. Shuppert moved to approve May 10 <sup>th</sup> minutes with correction. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.
<b>Reports:</b>	<p>Mathews reported the kids started a couple weeks ago.</p> <p>Relay for Life is coming up and he has been doing a lot of extra things to make the parks look better such as putting in some new swings.</p> <p>The horseshoe court finished.</p> <p>Built a new open shelter, with the inmates help.</p> <p>Have been working on the Amphitheater for a couple weeks and it is up and going. He has received a lot of good remarks as to the grounds being mowed and how they looked. Is thrilled to death the Amphitheater is here. Feels it is even going to get better and is very proud to be a small part of it.</p> <p>Hasecuster questioned the Skateboard Park being closed and stated he is not opposed to reopening it.</p> <p>Mathews stated he has had bad days and with the fire in the restrooms and closing them the kids then moved to setting the skateboard ramps on fire.</p> <p>Mathews stated he owes everyone an apology for making a quick decision to close the park and lock it up. He should have spoke to the board. Mathews stated he feels we need to make a statement. He hates to punish everyone but felt this needed to be done.</p> <p>Shuppert stated he hated to see it closed and asked if Mathews has any ideas who is doing the vandalism.</p> <p>Mathews stated an officer was there at midnight and everything was ok. When his crew went to clean the park at 7:00 a.m. they found the ramps had been vandalized. Someone had tried to set a fire under them with lighter fluid. The coke machine was also torn up. They ripped the front panel and broke the light bulbs.</p> <p>Kile told Mathews that he made a good decision. We made a statement. We can't put up with this.</p> <p>Voiles agreed.</p> <p>Shuppert suggested waiting until Monday to open the skateboard park back up.</p> <p>Post a sign that if people don't help us the park will be closed permanently.</p> <p>Mathews estimated \$350 damage just to the coke machine.</p> <p>Hasecuster stated he was jumped on by three people about this Saturday. He suggested pulling the coke machine as we have made a statement but feels it needs to be reopened. His daughter and Carla's daughter goes to this park. He hates punishing those kids. He feels we should post the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ask for more patrol and lock the park up at night.</p> <p>He suggested bringing the guy back in from last month and stress to them that they need to report damage. Kids need to speak up.</p> <p>Shuppert suggested putting up a web cam. He stated he will get prices.</p> <p>Harmon asked if we are willing to go lock up at night. Mathews stated he will lock up at 5:00 P.M. but when he's on vacation asked who was going to do it then. Sharpe stated she would.</p> <p>Hasecuster suggested leaving the lights on at dark because that's when the vandalism is happening is after dark.</p> <p>Mathews reported that three Shelbyville kids came to our parks to ride their bikes this weekend at 11:00 P.M. He called the police on them.</p> <p>He stated so we can't pin point this vandalism being Rushville kids. He asked the boys from Shelbyville why they were here and they said they were board.</p> <p>Bridges stated he feels there is times when Mathews is too nice. We have to start pressing charges on these kids. He hates to see that mom and dad will have to pay the money but then again, we have to stop this. He feels we need to charge them with criminal mischief.</p>

Hasecuster said the pop machine should go and to lock the gate at 5:00 p.m. and to re-open the park on Monday. Open at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 5:00 p.m. We need to post “vandals will be prosecuted”.

Suggested having a tip line for people to call in. It was decided to use the Park office number for a tip line for people to leave anonymous messages of vandalism.

Shuppert suggested closing the backs of the ramps. Hasecuster suggested putting cement boards on back.

Harmon asked Mathews to make the Skateboard Park a standing report each month.

Pool Manager Carfie Id reported to the board that the Waggener Pool is off to a good start. Our largest day was June 6 with 399 patrons. Our average daily attendance has been 225 so far this season. Admissions have brought in \$10,326.71 so far with an average daily balance of \$860.56. Concessions have brought in \$3,253.88 with an average daily balance of \$271.16. We have sold 17 child passes and 42 family passes so far this season.

We had 10 lessons last week for our first evening session. This week we have 29 lessons scheduled for each evening. We are still scheduling July morning lessons for the weeks of July 5-8 and July 11-15. Please call the pool to schedule. (932-7100).

Due to the lack of participation on “Family Night” and “Adult Swim”, beginning in July on Wednesdays, we will be offering “Open Swim Night” from 6:00 – 7:00 P.M. The cost will be \$1.00 a person.

We have closed early 3 days due to rain, and we have had 3 swim parties so far with 14 more scheduled at this time. Please call the pool (932-7100) to reserve a spot for a pool party. Two more parties were booked today.

We will be closing at 4:00 P.M. Monday-Friday (June 20-24) in order to accommodate for fair ground parking. We will also close at 4:00 P.M. on the Fourth of July. Raymond Gibson Day (Free Admission Day) is scheduled for Sunday, July 24.

We have several new guards this year, but things are running pretty smooth. We have had several compliments about our facility, the cleanliness, the guard versus patron ratio, as well as the discipline that is enforced at Waggener Community Pool. We truly appreciate those people who recognize our efforts to run a safe and family friendly pool.

Carfield and Kopf will contact Franklin and ask questions about the “Swim with your Dog Day” and get with Sharpe who is to email the board with the results.

- Claims Approval:

Reviewed prior to meeting by Hasecuster and Shuppert. Shuppert moved to approve the claims for the month. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Claims approved.
- Unfinished Business:

Paul Barada Jr. – Rush County Victims Assistance – “Swim with your Dog Day”. – Barada said that Vice President Liz Turner came up with this fundraising idea. They would like to hold this “Swim with your Dog” on the last day of the swim season maybe around 1:00 to 4:00. They will charge admission and clean up after the dogs.

Mrs. Turner said that Franklin does this; they charge admission and lower the chlorine level six days in advance. They lower the water level 2 ½ to 4 feet. The pumps are shut off so the hair doesn’t go through the pump. Owners are responsible for the mess. After the swim the pool is cleaned by lowering the water and cleaning the hair out of the pool. This way it doesn’t get into the pump. They contact pet stores for prizes and the dogs get to pick their prizes. She thinks Shelbyville does this also.

Carfield said she has a concern with lowering the chlorine level and questioned if lifeguards have to be there. Mrs. Turner said lifeguards do need to be present. Kopf said she thinks we can adjust the new system within a few hours. Her concern is the regulation. Does the owner stay with the dog?

She definitely feels people need to shower and brush their dog before it gets into the water. She’s not sure if the lifeguards should intervene with the animals. She wants “no drop your dog off and leave”.

Barada assured board that owner would stay with the dog. It would be for a couple hours and the guidelines would be posted.

Barada suggested asking the lifeguards to donate their time since this is a fundraiser and if they can’t then they could find the money to pay them.

The board questioned when school ends and starts. Kopf thought teachers have to return back to school on the 11<sup>th</sup> but kids don’t go back until the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Barada suggested having “Swim with your Dog” on the next Sunday after the kids go back to school. Kopf suggested scheduling it for Saturday with the rain date being Sunday.

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Sharpe questioned dog fights. Turner said Franklin didn't have a problem with that as it's not the dog's territory.

Shuppert questioned what it would cost to have the pool open those extra days.

Harmon said at the end of May it was running \$1,023 and that was for the initial start up and shock, so figures it will run somewhere around \$35 a day.

Shuppert advised Carfield and Kopf to get more info on the event and look into a waiver form.

Carfield questioned the age of the dog owner. Board felt the owner should be 18 or older.

Barada and Turner will report back at the next Parks Board meeting.

### **New Business:**

Friend of the Park Award – Bruce Davis – Mathews presented Bruce Davis with a "Friend of the Park Award" on behalf of the Parks department and Parks board for all the things he has done. All his hard work has been very much appreciated. This is just a small token of appreciation and assured Davis his work is very much appreciated.

Davis thanked everyone and that this was very thoughtful. He stated he is very thankful because look what this community has done for him.

Barb Tush was present and stated that she has been in child care for 21 years and has been bringing her daycare to the pool in the summer every year, every day. She has supported this pool and even allows 50 cents per kid per day for snacks. She stated she was shocked this year when a mother came back to her and said the pool membership had gone up and was \$50 for a single child membership. She feels this is too much of an increase for one year. We should have gradually raised the first year then add \$5.00 each year instead of the \$20 increase at one time.

She feels the pool is for kids and we have made a lot of hardship for a lot of people. She fully supports this pool and can't see how we can raise it that much at one time. We have made it bad for some people.

Kile stated it has been five years without an increase and that we are lower than a lot of surrounding areas.

Harmon stated she appreciated Tush being here and her comments.

Tush then asked if she can get a group rate for next year.

Harmon stated the rates were in the paper and that most other cities charge between \$80-\$90 range.

Harmon stated he appreciates what she does for the children and a group rate will be discussed for next year.

Name Horseshoe Courts – Mathews shared with the board that he would like the board's approval to name the Horseshoe Courts the "Bob Sheppard Horseshoe Court". It looks great and he has started a league now and has put a lot of work into this park. Shuppert moved to approve the naming of the horseshoe court the "Bob Sheppard Horseshoe Court". Voiles seconded. Motion carried.

A sign up sheet was then handed out to work at the fair. David Hasecuster has given this board permission to set at his booth and hand out surveys for the 5 Year Master Plan. Sharpe asked those interested to please sign the sheet.

Long discussion was held regarding the Amphitheater in Riverside Park regarding the \$20,000 shortfall of donated funds, and the infrastructure of the operation of the park.

Since the new park will be under the authority of the Parks Board, the Board requested to have a representative involved in the discussions with the core group regarding these items.

Harmon will send an email response to Mike Pavey's request for impute on taking the park to the next level.

After further discussion, Kile recommended that the \$20,000 shortfall be taken from the Non-Reverting fund. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.

Kile asked Mathews if he was going to continue with the Music in the Park. Mathews stated yes he feels he started that and wants that to continue.

Bridges asked the boards feeling on trails in the new Southside Park. The Cross Country is very interested in this. The board all agreed this would be a good thing.

Harmon again stated it was an outstanding evening.

There being no further business, Voiles moved to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

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DENNY CORN, PRESIDENT

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JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

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TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

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WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAN VOILES, MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAID HASECUSTER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY